

Edinburgh. Aug. 14.

Dear Sir!

From the state of the corn in  
this country, I conjecture that your crop at  
Rochampton must be nearly ripe; & I take  
the liberty to present to you an humble  
petition in favour of my experiments.  
Perhaps you will have the goodness  
to permit the wheat of the four different  
spots in the field which were marked  
with stakes to be preserved unmixed  
with the rest & made into distinct  
sheaves; as in this case the result  
of the processes might be easily ascertained;  
& the trial would be still more satisfactory  
if the common corn upon a single  
square yard of ground were preserved  
& selected as a standard of comparison.

- I trust you will be so good  
as to pardon me for the trouble I am  
giving you. I write with some uneasiness, as



I fear I have sometimes intruded my  
concerns upon your more important  
thoughts, & I should consider it as  
something approaching to a crime  
if I took up any of that time  
unnecessarily which is so constantly  
devoted to the best interests of  
the public.

I returned yesterday from the Highlands  
& the western Islands where I passed  
three weeks with much pleasure  
& instruction - I have been able  
to bring away a considerable number  
of specimens of the most important  
of the Rocks of Scotland as additions  
to the Museum of the Institution.

I purpose in the course of the  
week to pass on to Durham, & my  
first resting place in that country will

MSS  
002032A  
SCDIRB  
(sheet 1)



be Ecclestone near Barnard Castle, whence  
it will be easy for me to explore  
the lead mines & the Mineral production  
of Aston Moor. I mentioned to you  
that the Bishop of Durham was so good  
as to say that He should expect  
me to visit Bishop Auckland, I should  
be very glad to know at what time  
you propose to be there, & what period  
will be most suited for me to pay  
my respects to his Lordship. —

I have worked a little upon  
the course of lectures which you  
were pleased to recommend to me  
in the progress & effects of the Sciences  
& I begin to feel that the best  
mode of connecting together the general  
series of reasonings will be by treating  
the subject historically i.e. by considering  
the origin & advancement of natural  
knowledge according to the order of  
time in which the different branches



were discovered & improved - in this case  
perhaps the best title for the lectures  
would be in "the History of Science".

MSS  
002032 A  
SC01RB  
(sheet 2)

2/1

J. Bernard Esq.

Downcliff.

London.

Per AUG 22 1881

J. L. L. L.

Aug 22 1881

Any note with which you may be so good  
as to favour me I shall receive at Barnard  
Castle. I hope I shall have the satisfaction  
of meeting you soon. Permit me my dear Sir,  
to thank you for your continued kindness  
to me & to offer my best respects to Mrs Bernard  
and believe me to be your grateful & obliged  
H. Davy